

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD  
T. WAX

**HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep sadness by the passing away of a native Mississippian, Mr. Richard T. Wax. Mr. Wax, 83, died Monday, January 4, 2010, at his home.

Mr. Wax was President of the Wax Company, founded in 1898 by N.T. Wax. The Wax Company was built on the foundation of serving Mississippi farmers. Mr. Wax joined the company in 1948. He was elected President in 1972 and spent over 50 years of service to the Mississippi agricultural industry. Mr. Wax was also former president of the Southern Seedsmen's Association, the Southern Field Seed Council and was appointed by the American Seed Trade Association to the Panel of Arbitrators of the American Arbitration Association.

Mr. Wax was a devoted husband to Lewellen, and father to Barry, John, and Terry. Madam Speaker, with distinct honor and pride, I along with the citizens of Amory, Mississippi, sadly mourn the death of such an inspirational Mississippian. I want to personally thank him for his contributions. His memory will live on.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JON AND  
CRYSTAL TAETS

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jon Taets, my legislative director, and his wife, Crystal, on the birth of their second child. On Sunday, January 10, 2010 Jon and Crystal welcomed John Patrick "Jack" Taets to their family. Little Jack was named in honor of Jon's late grandfather, Jack Gillespie.

At birth, Jack Taets weighed 7 pounds 9 ounces and measured 20 inches long, and will be welcomed home by his older sister, Elizabeth.

COMMENDING ZACH BONNER

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Zach Bonner, one of my young constituents whose humanitarian work has earned him the Most Inspiring Person of the Year award from Beliefnet.com.

Zach created a charitable enterprise, the Little Red Wagon Foundation, when he was eight years old to help children in need. Zach has been doing humanitarian work since he was just six years old, handing out water from his red wagon after a hurricane. He has raised money to help provide meals to needy families during the holidays and has donated needed school supplies to children from lower-income families.

Zach recently began a walk across America to raise awareness about the problem of youth homelessness in our country. Zach will be walking 2,225 miles to raise money to help homeless kids. He previously walked nearly 1,000 miles from Tampa to Washington D.C. for the same purpose. If he successfully completes his walk across the country—and I do not doubt that he will—Zach will become the youngest person to do so.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent such a fine young man who has dedicated himself to helping underprivileged children. It inspires me that he has done so when he is only twelve years old himself. His age certainly belies his maturity. I want to commend this fine young man to all of our colleagues and hold him as an example of the good that can be done by one dedicated individual.

HONORING BOY SCOUT TROOP 623  
OF SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN ON  
ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Boy Scout Troop 623 of Southwest Michigan, on the occasion of its 90th anniversary. Boy Scout Troop 623 is among the oldest in the nation with the earliest records reporting a December 1919 founding, only three years after Congress chartered the national organization.

While the United States is home to many accomplished and dedicated Boy Scout Troops, Troop 623 remains among the most distinguished. The Troop has weathered several difficulties including a 1931 fire that destroyed their camp on Lake Madron. The camp was rebuilt during difficult economic times and has thrived ever since. Camp Madron is still among the finest Scout camps in the United States.

In the summer of 1961, Boy Scout Troop 623 became the first troop from West Michigan to serve as the Governor's Honor Guard and Ft. Mackinac guides when they took the first of their annual weeklong trips to Mackinac Island. The summer of 2010 will mark the 49th consecutive trip the troop has taken, making Troop 623 the longest serving troop in the state. This trip is the highlight of a scout's career.

Scouting is a tremendously rewarding activity, something which I have learned firsthand from my time as a Troop 623 Scout. For the hundreds of former members of Troop 623, their experiences with Scouting have equipped them to become responsible citizens and leaders in the communities that they now call home. The values learned as a Scout are irreplaceable, and the lives of those who have Scouting training bear tribute to their training.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
ALTERNATIVEPRESS.COM

**HON. LEONARD LANCE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The AlternativePress.com as it celebrates its one-year anniversary.

The AlternativePress.com was launched in October 2008 and currently serves as New Jersey's all-online alternative to local print newspapers.

In my congressional district, The AlternativePress.com serves residents in Berkeley Heights, New Providence, Summit and Westfield and features a wide array of news and information, from video streaming of local high school sports events to real estate listings and restaurant reviews, to objective local, regional and state news.

The AlternativePress.com is led by lifelong New Jersey resident and Rutgers University graduate Michael M. Shapiro, who serves as the outlet's chief executive officer and editor.

I would like to congratulate Michael Shapiro and the entire AlternativePress.com team as it celebrates its one-year anniversary. I commend the whole team for its tremendous service to the public.

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER FORT  
WORTH MARTIN LUTHER KING,  
JR. HOLIDAY COMMITTEE

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 12, 2010*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Greater Fort Worth Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Committee, for its work on promoting and honoring the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. Since 1985, the Committee has held a Scholarship Awards Banquet, as well as a Fort Worth March/Parade, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

This organization is one of the oldest in our country that has a commitment to promoting the legacy of one of our nation's greatest civil rights leaders. In fact, the first Fort Worth Parade honoring Dr. King was held one year before the national holiday was observed.

This year, the Committee has several activities planned around the holiday, including a Scholarship Banquet, a Gospel/Jazz Social, and a Parade and High School Band Exhibition. All events are scheduled to be held during the weekend of Saturday, January 16, through Monday, January 18, 2010.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today and recognize the Greater Fort Worth Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Committee for their commitment to upholding the legacy of Dr. King. I am proud to represent this charitable organization and the City of Fort Worth in the United States House of Representatives.